Vocational education for tackling unemployment

4172. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vocational training has assumed greater importance to tackle problem of unemployment;

(b) if so, whether Government have drawn any policy for maximizing vocational courses in secondary schools and colleges;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In pursuance of National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, and Programme of Action, 1992, Government of India launched the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education at +2 level in February, 1988. The Scheme aims to provide diversification of educational opportunities to enhance self-employability and to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled manpower and to provide an alternative for those pursuing higher education.

Increase in posts of judges

†4173. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of increasing the sanctioned posts of judges in the High Courts of the States;

(b) the names of the High Courts where newly created posts have been sanctioned on these grounds during last three years along with number thereof;

(c) the reasons for not increasing the sanctioned posts in the Chhattisgarh High Court; and

(d) the details of the number of pending cases in the Chhattisgarh High Court during the last three years?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) In pursuance of the judgement of the Supreme Court of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates on Record & Anrs. vs. the Union of India the judge strength of the High Courts is reviewed every three years.

1.1 As per the guidelines, the required strength of permanent Judges in a High Court is worked out by dividing the average institution of main cases during the last five years by the national average or the average rate of disposal of main cases per Judge per year in that High Court, whichever is higher.

1.2 Similarly, the required strength of Additional Judges in a High Court is worked out by dividing the number of main cases pending over two years by the national average or the average rate of disposal of main cases per Judge per year in that High Court, whichever is higher.

1.3 If the disposal per Judge in the concerned High Court is below even the national average then instead of increasing the strength, the concerned High Court is required to take steps for improvement in the rate of disposal of cases. If the average disposal of concerned High court is above the national average then increase in Judge strength is accordingly considered. The strength of Additional Judges is reviewed only if there is an increase in the arrears of the pending cases during the last 5 years and the disposal per Judge is above the national average.

2. As a result of a triennial review in the year 2006, 106 posts of Judges, subject to concurrence of the respective State Governments, have been approved in various High Courts as per details given below:

(i)	Allahabad	65 Judges
(ii)	Andhra Pradesh	27 Judges
(iii)	Calcutta	08 Judges
(iv)	Delhi	01 Judge
(v)	Karnataka	01 Judge
(vi)	Kerala	01 Judge
(vii)	Punjab & Haryana and	02 Judges
(viii)	Madhya Pradesh	01 Judge

3. The average rate of disposal of main cases per Judge per year in the Chhattisgarh High Court during 2001-05 was 1755.76 against the national average rate of disposal of 2324.07 which did not make them qualify for considering for increase in their judge strength.

4. Details of the cases pending in the Chhattisgarh High Court during the last three years is as follows:

Pending as on	Main cases	Misc. cases	Total
31.12.2004	47810	15922	63732
31.12.2005	52283	20620	72903
31.12.2006	61378	24249	85627

Vacant posts of judges in High Courts

4174. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies of High Court judges as on the 31st March, 2007, State-wise;

(b) the number of vacancies filled during the last five years all over the country, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the category-wise details of High Court judges as on the 31st March, 2007 (General, SC, ST, Minority and Women)?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Statistics regarding the vacancies of judges is maintained High Court wise. A Statement showing the number of vacancies filled during the years 2002-06 and vacancies as on 31.3.2007, High court-wise is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Appointment of Judges of the High Courts is made under articles 217 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No statistics is, therefore, maintained in this regard.

The Central Government, has however, been writing to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate suitable persons from the Bar belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women for appointment as High Court Judges.

There were 39 Women Judges in the High Courts as on 31st March, 2007.